

able to direct the movement of these resources in a timely manner, even when given limited notice in which to organize herself and her team.

Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 2012 Sergeant First Class Christine K. Tulloch will retire from the United States Army. She should be proud of the fact that her record of accomplishments is truly commendable. Throughout her career, SFC Tulloch was able to execute the tasks assigned to her in a capable manner in spite of conditions that were often pressurized and hostile. It is my great honor to recognize SFC Tulloch and I wish her all the best in her retirement and hope that she may continue to use her talents to the betterment of those around her.

RESEARCH WORKS ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer the following statement along with my colleague from California, Rep. DARRELL ISSA:

The introduction of H.R. 3699 has spurred a robust, expansive debate on the topics of scientific and scholarly publishing, intellectual property protection, and public access to federally funded research. Since its introduction, we have heard from numerous stakeholders and interested parties on both sides of this important issue.

As the costs of publishing continue to be driven down by new technology, we will continue to see a growth in open access publishers. This new and innovative model appears to be the wave of the future. The transition must be collaborative, and must respect copyright law and the principles of open access. The American people deserve to have access to research for which they have paid. This conversation needs to continue and we have come to the conclusion that the Research Works Act has exhausted the useful role it can play in the debate. As such, we want Americans concerned about access to research and other participants in this debate to know we will not be taking legislative action on H.R. 3699, the Research Works Act. We do intend to remain involved in efforts to examine and study the protection of intellectual property rights and open access to publicly funded research.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF SUMGAIT

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the scores of Armenian lives lost in the vicious attacks perpetrated by Azerbaijani pogroms against Armenian civilians in the town of Sumgait, Azerbaijan 24 years ago. Beginning on February 27, 1988 and for three days, Azerbaijani mobs assaulted and killed Armenians. Hundreds of Armenians were wounded, women and young girls were brutally raped, and victims of all ages were beat-

en and tortured and eventually burned to death. Thousands were driven from their homes and forced to become refugees. Armenian homes and businesses were left to be looted and destroyed.

In the years that followed this heinous event, Armenians living in Kirovabad and Baku suffered a similar fate. These pogroms were only part of a pattern of anti-Armenian activities occurring throughout Azerbaijan, setting the stage for two decades of aggression during which the Azerbaijani government initiated a war against the people of Nagorno-Karabakh. Thousands of people lost their lives and hundreds of thousands of Armenians were displaced as a result of the fighting. A once thriving population of 450,000 Armenians living in Azerbaijan virtually disappeared.

A cease-fire agreement, brokered in 1994, remains in place today. However, Azerbaijan's continued war-mongering, recent cease-fire violations, and dramatic increase of its military budget threaten to destabilize the Nagorno-Karabakh peace talks. In January 2008, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev warned Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh, "We are re-inforcing our army because we must be ready to free our lands . . . at any moment and by any means." Such rhetoric is detrimental to the peace process and is further evidence that this conflict is ongoing and must be resolved. It is my sincerest hope that a democratic and peaceful resolution can be reached, and Nagorno-Karabakh's right to self-determination affirmed.

This April will mark the 97th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, an event the Turkish government, Azerbaijan's closest ally, goes to great and tragic lengths to deny. We must not let such crimes against humanity go unrecognized. Today, let us pause to remember the victims of the atrocities of the Sumgait pogroms. Mr. Speaker, it is our moral obligation to condemn crimes of hatred and to remember the victims, in hope that history will not be repeated.

RECOGNIZING DUSCHA ROSS AS THE 2012 OKALOOSA COUNTY, FLORIDA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Duscha Ross as the 2012 Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. Good teachers educate, but the best teachers make a difference and inspire. For eleven years, Ms. Ross has made a significant impact in the lives of her students, colleagues, and community. I am proud to recognize her achievements.

Ms. Ross joined the Okaloosa County, Florida School District in 2002, with a background in Political Science and Military Studies from Pennsylvania State University. Her career as a teacher and mentor began at the Department of Juvenile Justice in Okaloosa County where she taught Language and Reading. Since then she has served the Okaloosa County School District in various capacities as a 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade teacher and a Remedial and Advanced Reading teacher at Northwood Ele-

mentary School. Ms. Ross has proudly served as a 5th grade teacher at Mary Esther Elementary School for the past two years.

Ms. Ross makes a difference by never settling for mediocrity. While some are afraid of change and are unwilling to take risks, Ms. Ross attributes some of her greatest successes in the classroom to the use of a novel approach. She incorporates innovative teaching practices, such as the use of the Balanced Literacy Model, Discovery Education Assessment (DEA) Probes, and technology to supplement daily lessons. Using these methods, she is able to better address the needs of her students and provide them a pathway to success. She strives to share teaching methods with her colleagues to ensure that all can benefit from these successful techniques. She also combines education with community involvement and often invites various community members, including members of the military and local Kiwanis Clubs, to participate in her lessons and interact with other members of Mary Esther Elementary School.

Out of her passion for teaching and her love for children, Ms. Ross sets high standards for all of her students and works with them to achieve their goals and the desired results of the overall academic performance of the class. She is the positive force behind each student's growth of mind, by giving them the confidence, knowledge, and inspiration needed to succeed. Teachers like Ms. Ross leave a perpetual impact on their schools and community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I take great pride in recognizing Ms. Duscha Ross as one of Northwest Florida's finest educators, and I congratulate her on her recent accolade as Okaloosa County, Florida Teacher of the Year. This is an outstanding achievement, and her service to the area should stand as an example to those who follow in her footsteps. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing her all the best for continued success.

HONORING DR. EDUARDO JOSE PADRON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's Sand In My Shoes Commitment to the Community award ceremony tonight, I rise to recognize and honor one of our nation's top education leaders, Dr. Eduardo Jose Padron. For nearly 20 years, Dr. Padron has served as the president of Miami Dade College, MDC, the nation's largest higher education institution. He has garnered recognition for his leadership from six American presidents and from organizations throughout the world.

Dr. Padron was born on June 26, 1944, in Santiago, Cuba. After arriving in the United States as a refugee at the age of 15, Dr. Padron capitalized on his educational opportunities by earning a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Florida. A decade later, Dr. Padron would become the president of Miami Dade College's Wolfson Campus. There, he implemented revolutionary initiatives that earned him a stellar reputation and propelled